

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-12 remain in the application, with claims 3-12 being indicated as allowable.

Original dependent claim 3 was indicated as allowable. Claim 3 was recognized as reciting patentably distinguishing structure. Accordingly, claim 3 has been re-written in independent form to include all of the limitations in claim 1 necessary to support the patentably distinguishing recitations of original and allowable claim 3. Since the limitations of claim 2 are not necessary to the distinguishing limitations of claim 3, such recitations are not included in claim 3. Accordingly, independent claim 3 and dependent claims 4-12 remain allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to clearly distinguish over Burgess '870 by reciting a lost motion connection that retains the fitting in the insert while allowing axial movement and biases the fitting against such axial movement. The pins 72 and 73 in Burgess '870 merely "retain" and do not allow axial movement while retaining nor due they, or any other element, bias against such axial movement.

Replacement formal drawings are being submitted herewith.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant believes that no fees are due, however, if any become required, the Commissioner is


Appln. No.: 10/693,558
Amdt. Dated: July 7, 2004
Reply to Office action of April 21, 2004

hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2789. Further and favorable reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted

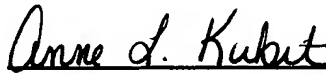
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

July 7, 2004
Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **Amendment** for U.S. Serial No.: 10/693,558 filed October 24, 2003 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on **July 7, 2004**.


Anne L. Kubit

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